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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-5, 7-10, 12-14 and 17-19 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicants amend the specification, the drawings and claims 2-5, 7-10, 12-14 and 17-19, and cancel claims 1, 6, 11, 15, 16 and 20.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 2-5, 7-10, 12-15 and 17-20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features and method steps of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The specification has been amended to provide a description of Figs. 1A and 15A in the BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS.

Figs. 14-15A have been amended to be properly designated as --PRIOR ART--.

Claims 1, 6, 11 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of Licari et al., and further in view of Toru (JP 3-244181). And claims 1, 6, 11 and 16 were further rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Hirose et al. (U.S. 6,407,345). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Applicants have amended allowable claims 2, 4, 7, 9, 12, 14, 17 and 19 to be in independent form including all of the features and method steps of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 2, 4, 7, 9, 12, 14, 17 and 19 are allowable. Claims 3, 5, 8, 10, 13 and 18 depend upon claims 2, 7, 12 and 17, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that claims 2, 7, 12 and 17 are allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are solicited.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 23, 2003


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